

House Bill 464

By: Representatives Momtahan of the 17th, Hatchett of the 150th, Jasperse of the 11th, Kelley of the 16th, Hill of the 3rd, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

To amend Article 3 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to local boards of education, so as to require local boards of education to have a public comment period at every meeting; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

SECTION 1.

Article 3 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to local boards of education, is amended by revising Code Section 20-2-58, relating to regular monthly meetings of local boards, adjournment, temporary presiding officer, and notice of date, as follows:

"20-2-58.

(a) It shall be the duty of each local board of education to hold a regular meeting during each calendar month for the transaction of business pertaining to the public schools. Any such meeting may be adjourned from time to time, and, in the absence of the president or secretary, the members of the local board may appoint one of their own number to serve temporarily. The local board shall annually determine the date of its meeting and shall publish it either in the official county organ or, at the option of the local board of education, in a newspaper having a general circulation in said county at least equal to that of the official county organ for two consecutive weeks following the setting of the date; provided, however, that the date shall not be changed more often than once in 12 months and, if changed, the new date shall also be published as provided in this Code section.

(b) Each local board of education shall provide a public comment period during every meeting. Such public comment period shall be included on the agenda required to be made available and posted prior to the meeting pursuant to paragraph (1) of subsection (e) of Code Section 50-14-1. A local board of education shall not require notice by an individual prior to the date of the meeting as a condition of addressing the local board during such

27 public comment period. The chairperson of the local board of education shall have the
28 discretion to limit the length of time for individual comments and the number of
29 individuals speaking for or against a specific issue."

30 **SECTION 2.**

31 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.